AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows without prejudice or disclaimer. This claim listing replaces all prior versions.

1. (Currently amended) A sustained-release oral dosage form comprising a first subunit and a second subunit, wherein the subunits are not the same and comprises an opioid analgesic and a sustained-release material, wherein the dissolution rate in-vitro of the ~~subunit~~ oral dosage form, when measured by standard USP Drug Release test of U.S. Pharmacopeia (2003) <724>, is less than about 10% within about 6 hours and at least about 60% within about 24 hours~~.~~, the dosage form providing a duration of therapeutic effect of about 24 hours.
2. (Previously presented) The oral dosage form of claim 1, wherein the opioid analgesic is selected from the group consisting of morphine, oxycodone, hydrocodone, or any combination thereof.
3. (Previously presented) The oral dosage form of claim 1, wherein the opioid analgesic is morphine.
4. (Previously amended) The oral dosage form of any one of claims 1-3, which further comprises at least one release-retarding material.
5. (Previously presented) The oral dosage form of claim 4, wherein the release-retarding material is selected from the group consisting of acrylic polymers, cellulose, alkylcelluloses, shellac, zein, hydrogenated vegetable oil, hydrogenated castor oil, and combinations thereof.
6. (Previously presented) The oral dosage form of claim 4, which further comprises a plasticizer.
7. (Previously presented) The oral dosage form of claim 5, wherein the plasticizer is selected from the group consisting of dibutyl sebacate, diethyl phthalate, dibutyl phthalate, triethyl citrate, tributyl citrate, triacetin, castor oil, polyethylene glycols, and propylene glycol.
8. (Previously presented) The oral dosage form of claim 4, which further comprises at least one release-modifying agent.
9. (Previously presented) The oral dosage form of claim 6, which further comprises at least one release-modifying agent.

10. (Previously presented) The oral dosage form of claim 8 or 9, wherein the release-modifying agent is selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, lactose, hydroxypropylcellulose, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, sodium lauryl sulfate, metal stearates, and combinations thereof.

11-14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously presented) The oral dosage form of claim 1, wherein the maximum dissolution rate is from about 10% to about 25% per hour.

16. (Previously presented) The oral dosage form of claim 1, wherein the maximum dissolution rate is from about 10% to about 50% per hour.

17. (Previously presented) The oral dosage form of claim 1, wherein the dissolution rate in-vitro of the subunit is less than about 10% within about 6 hours and at least about 60% within about 24 hours and the maximum dissolution rate is from about 10% to about 25% per hour.

18. (Previously presented) The oral dosage form of claim 1, wherein the dissolution rate in-vitro of the subunit is less than about 10% within about 6 hours and at least about 60% within about 24 hours and the maximum dissolution rate is from about 10% to about 50% per hour.

19. (Previously presented) The oral dosage form of claim 1, wherein the dissolution rate in-vitro of the subunit is less than about 10% within about 8 hours and at least about 60% within about 24 hours and the maximum dissolution rate is from about 10% to about 25% per hour.

20. (Previously presented) The oral dosage form of claim 1, wherein the dissolution rate in-vitro of the subunit is less than about 10% within about 8 hours and at least about 60% within about 24 hours and the maximum dissolution rate is from about 10% to about 50% per hour.

21. (Previously presented) The oral dosage form of claim 1, wherein the dissolution rate in-vitro of the subunit is less than about 10% within about 10 hours and at least about 60% within about 24 hours and the maximum dissolution rate is from about 10% to about 25% per hour.

22. (Previously presented) The oral dosage form of claim 1, wherein the dissolution rate in-vitro of the subunit is less than about 10% within about 10 hours and at least about

23. (Previously presented) The oral dosage form of claim 1, wherein the dissolution rate in-vitro of the subunit is less than about 10% within about 12 hours and at least about 60% within about 24 hours and the maximum dissolution rate is from about 10% to about 25% per hour.

24. (Previously presented) The oral dosage form of claim 1, wherein the dissolution rate in-vitro of the subunit is less than about 10% within about 12 hours and at least about 60% within about 24 hours and the maximum dissolution rate is from about 10% to about 50% per hour.

25-36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously presented) The oral dosage form of claim 1, which, at steady-state, provides:

    a. a maximum opioid plasma concentration (C_{max}) and an opioid plasma concentration at about 24 hours after administration (C_{24}), wherein the ratio of C_{max} to C_{24} is less than about 2:1;

    b. a maximum opioid plasma concentration (C_{max}), and an opioid plasma concentration at about 12 hours after administration (C_{12}), and an opioid plasma concentration at about 24 hours after administration (C_{24}), wherein the average opioid plasma concentration between C_{max} and C_{12} is substantially equal to the average opioid plasma concentration between C_{12} and C_{24};

    c. a first maximum opioid plasma concentration (C_{max1}) between about 0 hours and about 12 hours after administration, and a second maximum opioid plasma concentration (C_{max2}) between about 12 hours and about 24 hours after administration;

    d. a first maximum opioid plasma concentration (C_{max1}) between about 0 hours and about 12 hours after administration, a second maximum opioid plasma concentration (C_{max2}) between about 12 hours and about 24 hours after administration, and an opioid plasma concentration at about 24 hours after administration (C_{24}), wherein the average plasma opioid concentration

e. a first opioid maximum plasma concentration (C_{max1}) and a first minimum opioid plasma concentration (C_{min1}) between about 0 hours and about 12 hours after administration, a second maximum opioid plasma concentration (C_{max2}), and an opioid plasma concentration at about 24 hours after administration (C_{24}), wherein the ratio of C_{max1} to C_{min1} is less than about 2:1 or the ratio of C_{max2} to C_{24} is less than about 2:1; or

f. a first maximum opioid plasma concentration (C_{max1}) and a first minimum opioid plasma concentration (C_{min1}) between about 0 hours and about 12 hours after administration, a second opioid maximum plasma concentration (C_{max2}), and an opioid plasma concentration at about 24 hours after administration (C_{24}), wherein the difference between the ratio of C_{max1} to C_{min1} and the ratio of C_{max2} to C_{24} is less than about 30%.

38. (Previously amended) The oral dosage form of claim 1, wherein the dosage form, at steady state, provides a maximum opioid plasma concentration (C_{max}) and an opioid plasma concentration at about 24 hours after administration (C_{24}), wherein the ratio of C_{max} to C_{24} is less than about 2:1.

39. (Previously presented) The oral dosage form of claim 1, which at steady-state, provides a first Area Under the Curve (AUC_1) between 0 and about 12 hours and a second Area Under the Curve (AUC_2) between 12 hours and about 24 hours, wherein the difference between AUC_2 and AUC_1 is less than about 50%.

40-44. (Canceled)

45. (Previously presented) The oral dosage form of claim 1 wherein the sustained released material comprises a combination of an anionic alkyl salt and a pore-former.

46. (Previously presented) The oral dosage form of claim 45 wherein the anionic alkyl salt is sodium lauryl sulfate and the pore-former is hydroxypropylcellulose.

47. (New) A sustained-release oral dosage form comprising a first subunit and a second subunit, wherein:

a) each subunit comprises an opioid analgesic and a sustained-release material;

b) the dissolution rate of the first subunit measured by the USP Basket Method (Apparatus 1) at 50 rpm with 500 ml of 0.1N HCl for 1 hour followed by 500 ml of pH 7.5 0.05 M phosphate buffer at 37°C is greater than about 20% within about 6 hours;

c) the dissolution rate of the second subunit measured by the USP Paddle Method (Apparatus 2) at 100 rpm with 900 ml of pH 7.5 0.05 M phosphate buffer at 37°C is at less than about 10% within about 6 hours.

48. (New) The sustained-release oral dosage form of claim 47 wherein the opioid analgesic is morphine.